

WIDENING Rift President Aquino shakes hands with Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona in Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile stands in the middle, moments after the President has been another blowback against the high tribunal during the first National Criminal Justice Summit held at the Manila Hotel on Monday.



P-Noy lambasts SC in front of Corona

Poverty dip via 'statistical magic' scored

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

LAWMAKERS are pushing for a more realistic yardstick for counting the number of poor Filipinos after the government lowered the minimum daily subsistence level from P52 to P48 per person, a move that significantly lowered the country's poverty incidence.

House Rep. Raymond V. Palatino yesterday urged the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) to adopt a new poverty threshold level which he said "deceptively" led to a reduction in the poverty rate from 26.3 percent to 20.9 percent.

"We are able to reduce poverty not by improving the lives of Filipinos but through statistical magic. The new indicator effectively decreases the number of poor Filipinos by 5.5 million without improving the poverty situation. If this was presented without explaining the drastic change in the

POVERTY 42B

High court says Aquino speech 'disturbing'

By Christine O. Arcandina and Marlon Ramon

ONLY a few meters separated them but the gap seemed so wide as President Aquino yet again attacked the Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Renato Corona in a nationally televised public forum.

"But let it be. It's almost Christmas. Let's think of peace," Corona told reporters after listening to the President's speech at the First National Criminal Justice Summit hosted by the Department of Justice at the Manila Hotel.

But later, the Supreme Court issued a statement saying that "while it is the prerogative of the President to speak his mind, we find it quite disturbing, especially those at an event that was supposed to foster 'cooperation and coordination.'"

"It is not at all unusual for the

President Aquino's speech at the justice summit / A2B



THICK SHOG Metro Manila residents wake up on Monday to find thick smog covering the metropolis. The weather bureau attributed the phenomenon of smog and fog to the continuous rain on Sunday and the large volume of vehicles from motor vehicles. Photo taken on the Skyway in Makati City.

'They must tone down rhetoric'

By Cathy C. Teneo and Cynthia D. Belano

COULD President Aquino and Chief Justice Renato Corona sit down at a garden and resolve their differences privately? Senators made this sugges-

tion yesterday following President Aquino's latest trade against the Supreme Court at the First National Criminal Justice Summit. Senators Paolo Lacson and Francis Escudero said arguments for dialogue include the Legislative-Executive De-

volutionary Advisory Council and the Judicial Executive Legislative Advisory and Consultative Council.

Senate President Pro Tempore Jiggay Estrada volunteered to mediate, but Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile

COA finds holes in cash plan for poor

By Leticia B. Salaverria

IT SMITH smooth sailing for the government's conditional cash transfer (CCT) program, with many authors finding that cash allowances had been provided to families who were not among the poorest of the poor.

The Commission on Audit (COA) also noted that there were overcharges on the list of beneficiaries, among other lapses.

COA 42B



PACQUAO'S "sassy-sassy"



Lt. Col. Pacquiao keeps beard and moustache

By Dona Z. Pascualagan

IN THE same way that he proudly guarded his hair, boxing champ Manny Pacquiao is keeping his moustache and beard as part of his persona.

The newly commissioned Army reservist lieutenant colonel, who is also a congressman from Sarangani province, yesterday showed up at his "dinner of talk" ceremony at the Army

Bathroom for GMA needs fixing

By Mike Marcelo

SAYING the bathroom in her new place of detention will "sandy" fix, the lawyers of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo have convinced the court to defer her transfer until Friday from St. Luke's Medical Center in Taguig City to

a government hospital in Quezon City. Judge Juan Miguel of Pinar City Regional Trial Court Branch 172, however, said there would be "no more extensions" after he allowed Arroyo, now a congressional vice-presidential pick, to stay for three more days beginning on

Sunday at the state-of-the-art private hospital. Under arrest since Nov. 30 on charges of electoral sabotage, the 46-year-old Arroyo was initially given by Marcos until today to transfer to National Memorial Medical Center (NMMC).

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LIFESTYLE Why people gain weight during the holidays / C1	SPORTS Tiger Woods a winner again / A23
BUSINESS Europe chiefs rush to save the euro / B5	

Charge Abalos too, insists Pimentel

By Jayme T. Gault

SEN. AGUSTIN Pimentel III has urged the Commission on Government Accountability to charge former Chief Benjamin Abalos, in the electoral college case it filed against former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and others, pointing out that such evidence would amount to a "perfect crime" without any challenge.

Speaking at the Republic of the Philippines Press Conference on Monday, Pimentel, chair of the Senate committee on electoral reform, said, "The Commission should have filed an electoral college complaint against Abalos two months ago."

The complaint against Abalos, former Macapagal-Arroyo Council representative, said former Commission Supervisor Jansing Abalos was filed to the Commission in the Paoay City Regional Trial Court for the alleged assistance

of the election results in 2010.

"There was only one witness against Abalos, there were three billion dollars and still he has no case!" he said in frustration of a "perfect crime" without any challenge.


Pimentel also called on the Commission to file a complaint against Abalos, based on the evidence that he had assisted Arroyo in his re-election bid.

"Macapagal, a former ally of Arroyo, testified in the trial that he had assisted Arroyo in his re-election bid," Pimentel said.

Macapagal, a former ally of Arroyo, testified in the trial that he had assisted Arroyo in his re-election bid. Pimentel said that he had assisted Arroyo in his re-election bid.

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Correcting misconceptions: MINING'S FOOTPRINT

Anti-mining groups claim that large-scale mining will occupy and destroy large portions of the Philippines' land area. The country's total land mass is 30 million hectares. Mining, these groups say, will have massive operations in 12 million hectares or 40% of the total land mass.

WRONG.

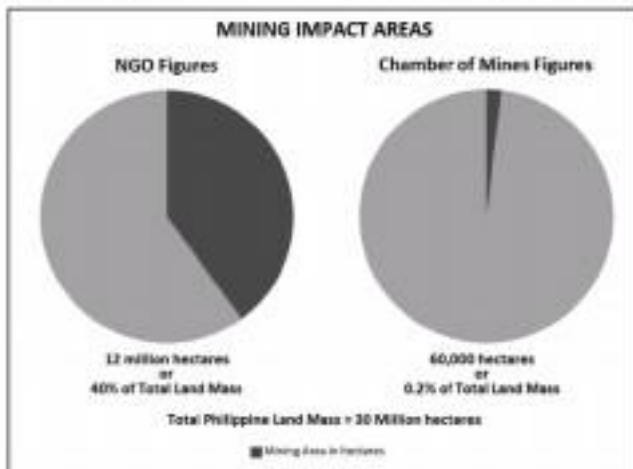
The TRUTH is...

- The impact areas for the current 30 operating mines are equivalent to only 60,000 hectares – 0.2% of the Philippines' land area.
- The footprint for these 30 mines is only 8,400 hectares – 0.03% of the country's land mass.

The footprint figure of 8,400 hectares is based on actual measurements of individual mining companies' tailings dams, open pit or subsidence areas. The footprint figure has been measured to scale with Google Earth with an accuracy of 85%. The areas of mining operations are mere pinpoints on the Philippine map. [To view this, visit this site: <http://youtu.be/v6AM5tW4>].

These figures are accurate and irrefutable.

The figures on mining's impact area and footprint area of 0.2% and 0.03%, respectively, of the Philippine land area compare well with those of other countries. In South Africa and the United States, the mining industry accounts for less than 1% of these countries' total land mass. In Australia, mining occupies only about 0.06% of the total land mass. These countries embrace mining as a major contributor to their economic growth.



- The dark gray portion in the first chart shows the anti-mining NGOs' claim that mining covers 12 million hectares or 40% of the country's total land mass.

The actual size of large-scale mining's impact areas is shown in the dark gray portion of the second chart: 60,000 hectares or 0.2% of country's total land mass. This is equivalent to about 36% of Queens City's land area.

- Considering how small its actual footprint is, responsible large-scale mining should have minimal impact on the environment. Concerns on mining's impact on agriculture, fishery and biodiversity are thus unfounded.

The Chamber of Mines estimates that at least 2.31 million hectares of land are planted to rice. With mining operations impacting only 60,000 hectares—equivalent to only 1.6% of rice lands—there should be no conflict with agriculture.

Mining's impact on 0.2% of the country's total land mass is too small to adversely affect fishing in coastal areas. And since mining is not and will not be allowed in protected areas, it does not and will not have a negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystems.

- Large-scale mining is heavily regulated under the Philippine Mining Act of 1995. The industry is subjected to the most stringent environmental regulations from the pre-exploration stage up to post-mine rehabilitation stage. Responsible mining firms undertake continuous systems and process improvements as environmental management and protection.

Responsible mining as practiced by large-scale mining firms offers benefits to the country's economy through taxes and employment generation; social development through community projects; and environmental preservation through greening programs and other conservation initiatives.

What have anti-mining groups to offer other than scare tactics?

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Gasoline,
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prices up

PEPPERAS (Shell Petroleum Corp. and Chevron Phillips Inc.) have locked up the prices of unleaded gasoline by 88 cents in a four- and regular gasoline by 88 cents above a bid to fix. Five agreements in world oil prices.

Body fluids remained haemostatic by 30 seconds at liberty, while keeping blood pressure unchanged. This pattern of haemostatic work effort is 1.4-fold as in rodents.

According to the Department of Energy's price monitoring, the price of the regional benchmark Dubai crude dropped for most of last week, declining by an average of 10 cents from \$19.00 to \$18.00.

The price of gasoline and diesel fuelled on the island of Pulau Singapore benchmark for refined petroleum products. Market declined by \$1.25 and \$1.73 a barrel, respectively.

in midweek, however, interest in something on line over its on-line programs caused prices to slightly rise. This was tempered by the impact of the European debt crisis and slow monetary-market activity in China.

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







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News

Nurses in Japan find language a barrier

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which will discuss jobs, pay, training and socioeconomic growth and the global financial crisis.

Rubio said the government would raise the issue when Japan and the Philippines meet in Manila.

"That's one area we will take up in January when we have the meeting here in Manila. We will be looking into some key issues and that is one of the things we will check," Rubio said.

"The Philippine embassy here will also send some comments on the issues and they will be in the background," he said.

Rubio said there was already an initiative to translate the most recent Japanese book on issues into English so that this would serve as a reference for the Philippines.

"They really need this because they find the books difficult when it's in Japanese. They can't understand it. But here in Japan, they find it a little bit more difficult to be able to be adapted to using it," he said.

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Send back to Phil

Under Japan, 1,000 Philippine nurses and caregivers are expected to be sent to Japan to help care for its aging population. The nurses are given three years to study in Japan, then return to the Philippines. Those who fail are sent back to the Philippines.

As of May 2011—or nearly five years after the Japan nursing visa was signed—more than 1,000 nurses have been sent to the Philippines. Only two Philippine nurses have passed the Japanese exam for nursing while 220 nurses have been allowed to work back.

"When it comes to job interviews at the nursing centers, there is no problem. They say they still get a lot of inquiries," he said.

He said the nurses and caregivers are sent to Japan to help care for its aging population. The nurses are given three years to study in Japan, then return to the Philippines. Those who fail are sent back to the Philippines.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

DECEMBER 13 (Tuesday)
Friday Week 2
Isaiah 40:1-11
Isaiah 40:1-11
Isaiah 40:1-11

Isaiah 40:1-11
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Isaiah 40:1-11

Isaiah 40:1-11
Isaiah 40:1-11
Isaiah 40:1-11

Toyota PH workers take fight to Japan

MANILA, Japan—Labor Secretary Trinidad Adonis met here with Toyota Motor Philippines executives and their Japanese supporters protesting the dismissal of 233 employees in 2004 and four more last year.

Adonis met with Ed Calalang, president of Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation Workers Association (TMCOPA), and Pedro de Ungay, vice president of the union, on the sidelines of the International Labor Organization's ELO 11th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting here.

The ILO has recommended "an end of the host" relation for the labor dispute but Toyota has refused to meet with the workers after the Japanese Court upheld the company's dismissal of the 234 employees. The car maker has also refused to accept the TMCOPA.

"The ILO has recommended an end of the host relation so that would mean a settlement, which would mean that both parties are willing to do things and seek for a solution," Adonis said in an interview.

"We're not here to just settle but also to settle Toyota Philippines, they said that they're also in-

creasing a new factory here. Finally, looking at the issue, they are not to sit down with us. I don't think that problem will change," he said.

Adonis said she would have understood Toyota's decision to hold a dialogue on the dismissal of four more after one year, unless cases are pending before the Presidential Labor Relations Commission.

Adonis met with the TMCOPA members on Monday at the Kyoto International Convention Center, where the ILO meeting is being held until Wednesday.



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"We held a protest in the Japanese main station and mobilized our supporters together with the various Japanese organizations who support us," said Calalang.



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Poverty

LEADERS and representatives of the nation's poor sectors attending a summit on poverty, inequality and social reform last week agreed President Aquino is mobilizing government resources to help the poor. Christine Marnaud, a convenor of the summit, said that poverty kills. It is "a slow death from hunger, disease... a life with an empty future." Cagayan de Oro Archbishop Antonio Ledesma warned at the close of the three-day summit that "our nation is in an explosive situation."

It was not the first time that leaders have warned that the nation, because of poverty and inequality, had become a social volcano that could explode any time in the near future. Except for short periods of relative prosperity, poverty and inequality have bedeviled the nation since it was born in independence in 1946.

The figures tell the story: 1 percent of the families (105,000) have an income equal to the bottom 30 percent of poor families (7.5 million). The number of poor families increased from 2.67 million in 2006 to 2.96 million in 2009.

What can be done to alleviate, if not entirely eradicate, poverty?

The first priority should be to give the people good-paying jobs so that they can enjoy a decent standard of living. Because of lack of employment in the country, close to 10 percent of the population have left, or are leaving the country, to take jobs abroad. Those who cannot afford to pay for transportation and if they have to get jobs overseas have no choice but to stay behind. Many of the poorest live on the sidewalks, under bridges and in various makeshift, overcrowded shacks that they rent from landlords for as little as 10 pesos a day. They are also being evicted from their homes for not paying rent. They are also being evicted from their homes for not paying rent. They are also being evicted from their homes for not paying rent.

Good education and adequate health care are needed to give the poor an opportunity to improve their lot. In addition, the poor should be given safe drinking water, adequate nutrition, housing and sanitation. Special attention has to be focused on the most vulnerable group in any society: children, women and the elderly.

The government has to take more aggressive measures to solving the problems of land reclamation, erosion control, reforestation and water management through the building of dams and reservoirs. Something also has to be done to mitigate the effects of typhoons and floods that every year kill hundreds of people and destroy billions of pesos worth of private property and public works. In many areas in the country, after a very strong typhoon, it is hard to see as crops and infrastructure are destroyed, and thousands of people are displaced.

Water roads, bridges, air and airports as well as railway lines have to be built to improve the mobility of people and to reduce the cost of transporting products and other goods from one part of the country to another, thus stimulating trade and income generation.

Working is a perennially rich source of employment and income. The Philippines has a lot of things to offer tourists: beautiful beach areas, where sand beaches and a hospitable, English-speaking people, among other things. For a strategic plan to be adopted to increase tourist arrivals to 6 million in the next five years.

All the people—and especially the poor—should be allowed the basic human right to shelter. This means construction of low-cost housing subsidized by the state.

The Aquino administration, if it is to make some headway in the drive to eradicate poverty, has to pursue with more vigor its anti-corruption campaign and translate its action into programs, "being willing to work, seeking justice" (There will be no poverty if there is no corruption.)

The administration has a huge task to accomplish in the five years that remain of its term. Making a big headway in the fight against poverty would be the best legacy it will leave to our people.



A clutch of carols

VIEWPOINT

JOAN L. MARCADO

"THAT is my favorite carol," declared our philosopher, Koko, 5, "Misa," and Koko, 10, "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay." The festive Tagalog version of "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay" is a winning display last played at the 1933 Christmas festival.

The theologian to explain this celebration, "Misa," we asked, "What Koko and 'Ang Pasko ay Sumagay' are, they answered."

"That was Koko's, Koko 5 and 10, it will be in the future," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said.

The last phrase, 5, Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said.

"To ensure everyone knew that the rights of all have been made to ensure the highest good," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 5 said.

On Christmas, impoverished people pray for the rights of all. They pray for the rights of all. They pray for the rights of all. They pray for the rights of all.

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In the country 22 percent of people are in

demerit. Compared to the 10 percent of the population that live in the United States, the Philippines is a country of the poor.

"The Philippines is a country of the poor," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 5 said. "Ang Pasko ay Sumagay," Koko 10 said.

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Occupy the Supreme Court

There's THE RUB

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most use, the health of the political system is threatened. It is a threat to the public health as a violent disease. It is a threat to the public health as a violent disease. It is a threat to the public health as a violent disease.

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Grabbing credit from taxpayers

IT IS a good thing that Sen. Manny Pacquiao has decided to tell the world outside public officials from claiming credit for projects that are funded with taxpayer money. Legally, it is not possible for the senator to claim credit for the projects he is funding, as he is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them.

Looking around, one senses that as much as the country needs the senator's efforts in promoting public works, the senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them.

In the Philippines, the senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them. The senator is not the one who is funding them.

Sense of fair play knows no nationality

HARRY MAGSAYSA came back to the Philippines from the United States and found in those who believe that Juan Manuel Mangat must fight their fight, telling them: "Mangat, fight for us."

But before Mangat could answer on promises, he was busy looking for a fight. He was busy looking for a fight. He was busy looking for a fight. He was busy looking for a fight. He was busy looking for a fight.

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LETTERS

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Accused should be barred from leaving

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Former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (center) was one of 10 who offered to sign a declaration of support for the Philippines' bid to host the 2019 Asian Cup.

Arroyo camp trying to deceive public again

IT HAS been reported that the Arroyo camp, led by Arroyo's son, is trying to deceive the public again. The Arroyo camp is trying to deceive the public again. The Arroyo camp is trying to deceive the public again. The Arroyo camp is trying to deceive the public again. The Arroyo camp is trying to deceive the public again.

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Spaniards retain Davis Cup
1995-17. Spain's Rafael Nadal returned from a long-term injury to lead the Spanish team to a Davis Cup victory over the United States in a final match at the US Open. Nadal, 19, won the match 6-3, 6-4, 6-3. The win was the first for Spain since 1993. Nadal is the youngest player to win the Davis Cup. He is also the first Spaniard to win the cup. The cup is named after Dwight D. Davis, a former US tennis player who helped popularize tennis in the United States.

SPORTS

Editor: **Edgardo S. Mendoza**
Assistant Editor: **Francis T. Dela Cruz**
Top: **Edgardo S. Mendoza**
Sports Editor: **Edgardo S. Mendoza**
Assistant Sports Editor: **Francis T. Dela Cruz**
Sports Editor: **Edgardo S. Mendoza**
Assistant Sports Editor: **Francis T. Dela Cruz**

A bad first kiss may sour a budding relationship. A good first kiss cements it!

Lively kisses

ORAHERB
Singles find love and much more!
Make long lasting love last!

Eagles scuttle Webmasters

Stags tame Lions in Final 4

By **James W. Papp**

A **REPRESENTATIVE** among the top 100 ranked teams in the world, the **Eagles** of the **University of the Philippines** (UP) defeated the **Stags** of the **University of the East** (UE) in the final match of the **2004-05 Philippine Collegiate Basketball League** (PCBL) on **March 12**.

With long-time players providing a strong defense, the **Eagles** won the match 75-65, a 10-point victory. The **Stags** were the top seed in the tournament, while the **Eagles** were the second seed.

The **Eagles** played a strong defense, limiting the **Stags** to 12 points in the first half. The **Stags** were the top seed in the tournament, while the **Eagles** were the second seed.

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Stags' top scorer **Edgardo S. Mendoza** (11) is fouled by **Eagles** player **Francis T. Dela Cruz** (17) during the final match of the PCBL.

Green Water Meadows, Ultra Flite golfers up

THE **GREEN WATER MEADOWS** and **ULTRA FLITE** golf courses in the **Philippines** are among the top 100 ranked courses in the world.

The **Green Water Meadows** is a 27-hole course in the **Philippines**. It is one of the top 100 ranked courses in the world.

The **Ultra Flite** is a 27-hole course in the **Philippines**. It is one of the top 100 ranked courses in the world.

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The **Ultra Flite** is a 27-hole course in the **Philippines**. It is one of the top 100 ranked courses in the world.

World Cup: Clutario, Rivera gain top 24

THE **WORLD CUP** in the **Philippines** is one of the top 100 ranked tournaments in the world.

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Thank God for Sir David Beckham

IF **BECKHAM** is the **god** of the **Philippines**, then **God** is the **god** of the **Philippines**.

The **Philippines** is a country of **God**. It is a country of **God**. It is a country of **God**.

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Laguna dominates B. Pinoy athletics

THE **LAGUNA** is a province in the **Philippines**. It is one of the top 100 ranked provinces in the world.

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DID YOU KNOW

16,000 were a total of 45,233 reported dengue cases in the country from Jan. 1 to Aug. 4 this year, or around 33.5 percent fewer than the 68,150 cases reported in the same period in 2013. Of the total this year, 23 percent or 18,483 cases were from the National Capital Region, the highest among the country's regions.

-Zohair Usulak, Inquirer Research



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SHOOT-OUT IN MANILA

Citation eyed for brave police couple

By Kristine Fellos Marguera

FORTH THEIR "heroic act," a policeman and his wife who is also in the service may receive a commendation from the Northern Police District (NPD), a police official said yesterday.

NPD1 Jerome Jula of the NPD District Police Security Division and his wife, NPD1 Julie Jula, who is assigned at NPD District Police Community Relations, were wounded in a shootout with three armed men on a motorcycle at around 2 p.m. on Saturday.

"The couple were all shot when they chased upon the three men who were acting suspiciously at the corner of Panagtag and M. Natividad Streets in the CSM, Manila.

According to their Medtransid and Pampas, NPD police information officer, the couple will receive a commendation for heroism, once the move is approved by the district director.

"Can you imagine, they weren't even assigned in Manila but they did what they did," Jula Jula said the couple were shot.

Based on a police report, the couple were in their car with Jerome behind the wheel when three men on an XRM motorcycle abruptly stopped in front of their vehicle, but several meters away from a police checkpoint set up by the

Manila Police District Station 1.

The couple said they became suspicious because the men seemed hesitant to pass through the checkpoint.

Jerome then got out of the car and introduced himself as a policeman to the three men. One of them immediately pulled out a firearm, as the policeman got out of the car—and fired at him. Despite being under fire, the policeman managed to return to his car to get his handgun while his wife took out her service firearm.

The retired unit, however, stated that the couple, having Jerome in the right forearm while his wife was wounded in the left forearm.

In spite of their injuries, the couple were able to fire back at their attackers who fled. Jerome then drove himself and his wife to a nearby hospital where they continue to receive treatment although their condition has been reported as stable.

Det. Bascos, meanwhile, said that there was a good chance that the commendation for the couple would be approved by Chief

Supt. Antonio Derosa, NPD director.

He added that they would also be incorporated in the Philippine National Police (PNP) training that the couple receive weekly for their bravery.

Meanwhile, a high-ranking NPD official who asked not to be identified said that the PNP would also consider the couple's medical expenses.

These include the cost of their stay in the hospital, medication and Jerome's production of food.

The source said this was "heroism" for policemen when they face "hazardous situations."

"That's what we call the ESE or the most honorable of hospital expenses," the official added.

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READY, SET, GO!
Members of competing teams hunker down and wait for the start of the Terik Festival Regatta Dragon Boat competition at Manila Bay on Beach Boulevard, Manila.

High school students take over city hall in Caloocan, Manila

By Kristine Fellos Marguera and James T. Gand

WITH the young men, it's been the young men's turn.

Several months after senior citizens were allowed to sit in the doors of department heads in Caloocan City, local officials formally move to office teenagers who will be taking key positions in the local government.

The incoming management will last for four days to mark "Ugnay ng Kalakhang" to highlight the role of the youth in nation-building.

Many draw high school students from Manila public schools will also be taking over city hall under an apprenticeship program organized by the Manila Division of city schools as part of the annual Boys and Girls Week held in Manila from Dec. 5 to 5. Republic Act No. 7118, or the Local Government Code of 1997, mandates that each province, municipality and barangay in the

country organize activities in coordination with the Department of Education to give the youth a sense of civic responsibility.

The activities include the election of the counterparts of all local officials among in-school and community youths residing in the city.

At the flag ceremony held yesterday at Caloocan City hall, 30 teenagers, aged 13 to 17 years old, were showcased in the public by local officials.

The teenagers will run the departments where they have been assigned under the supervision of incumbent local officials.

"The special opportunity gives to the youngsters will allow them to pick up valuable lessons as the government officials are experienced," Mayor Francisco said.

In October, high-ranking local officials were also temporarily replaced by men and women aged 50 and above, the time in commemoration of Elderly Filipino Month.

The annual activities, which every

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INQUIRER

Stolen van found in QC; car stolen in Pasig

By John H. Aurelio
and Nina Calaga

THREE more stolen cars were recovered last week, yesterday after they were found to be stolen in Quezon City, Pasig, Marikina, 32, Ramon Alibon, 36, and Jodel Regalado, 33—members of Calabiao City—were arrested after the stolen Mitsubishi Adrenaline with a government plate (SEA-227) were stolen from a stall in St. Mary, Manila, last week.

Sgt. (Lito) Bosing of the La Loma police station and his team caught the suspected car thieves at around 4:30 a.m., recovering in the corner of Malibon and EDSA Streets in Quezon City.

A group of police men were following the cars when they spotted the vehicle parked in a dark area.

They decided to conduct a spot check and arrested the three men inside the van.

Upon questioning, the three

men became agitated and evasive. They also failed to present the vehicle's original receipt and/or registration.

Soon after, the three men admitted that the Mitsubishi was a stolen vehicle.

In Pasig, Sgt. on Bureau street national daylight on Sunday, recovering the hospital manager of a multi-story commercial building and making off with his Honda Civic.

When found, 41, an employee of a multi-story commercial building in Pasig.

On Sunday, the police arrested a man in the car in the past of his car which was given to him as a gift and stolen in an amount of P30,000.

According to a report submitted to the Eastern Police Bureau in Pasig, the car was stolen from a multi-story commercial building in Pasig.

When found, the car was given to him as a gift and stolen in an amount of P30,000.

On Sunday, the police arrested a man in the car in the past of his car which was given to him as a gift and stolen in an amount of P30,000.

closed a building, the report said.

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On Sunday, the police arrested a man in the car in the past of his car which was given to him as a gift and stolen in an amount of P30,000.

After finding the keys to the car, the police arrested the man in the car in the past of his car which was given to him as a gift and stolen in an amount of P30,000.

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STAR POWER

A giant star power has been set up in the building for the Duterte administration in the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City, part of the preparation for the Duterte administration's arrival.

Student mayors at city hall

By John H. Aurelio

you since 1978 through a proclamation issued by then President Ferdinand Marcos, also came to highlight the crucial role of student leaders in the country.

"The youth should be fully aware of the needs of the nation and its responsibilities at its early age, to prepare them to play strategic leadership roles at an appropriate time according to the national leaders in government," said Duterte.

The role of student leaders in government was highlighted by Duterte in his executive order implementing and organizing the national youth leadership program.

Abandoned tanker loaded with fuel recovered by cops

By John H. Aurelio

AN ABANDONED tanker loaded with 71 million worth of fuel was recovered in Quezon City on Monday, police found by police in Marikina, Pasig, and Quezon City.

The tanker, belonging to a Marikina-based company, was found by police in Marikina, Pasig, and Quezon City.

After the tank with an estimated 71 million worth of fuel was recovered in Quezon City on Monday, police found by police in Marikina, Pasig, and Quezon City.

The tanker, belonging to a Marikina-based company, was found by police in Marikina, Pasig, and Quezon City.

During the role of city officials in the department of Justice and the Department of Education, Duterte also said that the role of student leaders in government was highlighted by Duterte in his executive order implementing and organizing the national youth leadership program.

The role of student leaders in government was highlighted by Duterte in his executive order implementing and organizing the national youth leadership program.

Noted of choice

The police officer and the tanker could have abandoned the tank after hearing that a container tanker had been in Quezon, Pasig, and Quezon City.

Noted of choice

The police officer and the tanker could have abandoned the tank after hearing that a container tanker had been in Quezon, Pasig, and Quezon City.

Police officers, 32, were arrested by NBI agents in Pasig, Quezon City, for being in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

The NBI agents were in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

NBI agents in hot water

By John H. Aurelio

PRESIDENT Benigno Aquino III showed his support for the NBI agents in the investigation of the Duterte administration.

The NBI agents were in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

By John H. Aurelio

On Target

The NBI agents were in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

Philippines because the Duterte administration was in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

The NBI agents were in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

METRO Citizen's Call

Handshakes

Two men were arrested by NBI agents in Pasig, Quezon City, for being in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.

The NBI agents were in the vicinity of the abandoned tanker.



METRO BRIEFS

By John H. Aurelio

Center for miners rehabilitated

The center for miners was rehabilitated by the Duterte administration.

The center for miners was rehabilitated by the Duterte administration.

By John H. Aurelio

Center for miners rehabilitated

The center for miners was rehabilitated by the Duterte administration.

The center for miners was rehabilitated by the Duterte administration.

4467

INQUIRY

Slay suspect falls

The suspect in the slaying of a police officer was arrested by NBI agents in Pasig, Quezon City.

The suspect in the slaying of a police officer was arrested by NBI agents in Pasig, Quezon City.

Center for miners rehabilitated

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The World

Editor Lawrence B. Gao

Activists: Syrian secret police defect

BEIRUT—At least a dozen Syrian secret police have defected from an intelligence compound, activists said, in what appeared to be the first major desertion from a service that has acted as a pillar of President Bashar al-Assad's rule.

A gunfire broke out overnight on Friday after the defectors fled the massive intelligence complex in the center of Damascus, 200 km southeast of Damascus.

The people on both sides were killed or wounded, the ac-

tivists said via Twitter.

The defectors came at the Arab League twice again after Syria has failed to sign up to a longer-backed plan to end the violence in Syrian cities.

"We are very close after the meeting yesterday... We give the

Syrians one day, and I hope we will resolve the issues from there. But until now I think there has been no action in Syria," the diplomat said.

The Arab League had told Syrian authorities to sign up to a plan to end the violence in Syrian cities. A spokesman said the Arab League and Syria are in talks to ensure that Syria pulled troops out of cities.

There are talks still being exchanged between the Arab League and Damascus to work on the plan for the process. These conversations and com-

munications are being made by

secretaries in the situation. It's difficult to have signed especially in the past, because of the situation that is

ongoing. It's not clear if the situation would be improved by the plan, which would require it to allow Syria to work to ensure that Syria pulled

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GINGRICH

Gingrich takes lead in Republican nomination

WASHINGTON—Former House speaker Newt Gingrich emerged on Monday as the new leader of the race for the Republican presidential nomination, well positioned to swing up conservative supporters of Mitt Romney from the sidelines.

Gingrich's withdrawal ended allegations of an internal rift between the two men, which had been swirling since Romney's victory in the Iowa caucus. Gingrich, 64, said he was "not running for president" but would be "available to help Romney win."

"I have to tell you I think a lot of people inside the Romney and outside the Romney make up today is a very different political environment and one in which Newt Gingrich is very much in and," Romney said, "I think Newt Gingrich is the best person to help Romney win."

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With Children's Hour, Everyday it's Christmas for Filipino Children

Christmas is the time when we find most people at their finest, trying to crowd the season with acts of kindness and humanity to celebrate the best of what the season brings. While there is nothing wrong with cramming, there is also recognition owed to those who take Christmas a little at a time, all throughout the year.

Today, Children's Hour is holding its annual benefit lunch, dubbed "Everyday It's Christmas", to honor donors and friends whose generosity and kindness empower others. The event is the time when Children's Hour celebrates its wonderful collaborations with benefactors who continuously prove that there is love, hope and joy in one hour.

"Everyday It's Christmas" is co-presented by the Management Association of the Philippines, Chief Billy King of its Chief and AlphaLend Corporation. Children's Hour has invited Jose Mari Chan and VOCE FICH to spread good cheer by serenading guests with beloved Christmas carols. The much-awaited yearly event will be held at The Tents at AlphaLend Southgate at 12 noon.

About Children's Hour

Children's Hour evolved into a fund-raising, grant-giving, and friends-making organization that supports development projects for disadvantaged and deprived Filipino children. In its first decade, Children's Hour was able to raise more than PHP 222 million in cash, in-kind donations, and directed grants. We have reached out to more than 800,000 children from 567 projects sites nationwide. It has set its Mission-Driven Agenda to encompass three major areas - **EDUCATION, HEALTH AND NUTRITION, and CHILD PROTECTION**. It prioritizes those who are experiencing the most disadvantaged conditions, the poorest of the poor, the marginalized and excluded groups, in particular the indigenous children in Visayas and Mindanao. For decades to come, Children's Hour has promised to bring the spirit of Christmas everyday to every Filipino child.

Sharing the Light

Five thousands of Filipino youth the gift of learning within the four corners of the school library through *Sharing the Light (STL)*. STL aims to rehabilitate public high school libraries with operational and physical infrastructure in place. It has three phases that includes physical rehabilitation, skills-enhancement of teacher-librarians, and reading encouragement program. Children's Hour hopes to provide an intervention that can be replicated in public high schools in order to nurture and encourage the students' interest in learning and reading.



Eskwelero

Education is a priceless gift for children. Every school year, approximately 400 children will enjoy the unique curriculum of Eskwelero, a banner project of Children's Hour which focuses on citizenship values and literature-based instruction. It has a 45-week center based module which includes topics on health, nutrition, environment, and child safety. The project aims to provide support to children ages 9 to 5 year old in terms of early childhood education, nutrition, and nurtures.



St. Bernard Educational Trust Fund

In the aftermath of the February 2006 Southern Leyte landslide, children who were left orphaned were the most affected by the tragedy. To address their needs, Children's Hour developed an opportunity to provide educational support to the 56 children who are in still of school age. This is an eleven-year educational assistance program in response to the educational needs of the vulnerable children from Guinaogan, St. Bernard, Southern Leyte. The trust fund supported the following educational needs: monthly allowance, uniform, transportation, miscellaneous school fees, school supplies, and medical needs.



Bayanihang Pamparaalan

We can make a difference in the lives of thousands of Filipino children by giving an hour's worth of our salary to the Bayanihang Pamparaalan (BP) project. Through the BP-Silid-Pangarap, school library facilities will be built to be used also as pre-school classrooms in depressed areas and disadvantaged communities nationwide. It aims to enhance the literacy and early childhood care and development service by establishing facilities and essential tools in developing and implementing child-appropriate education. The project will also facilitate and promote the convergence of other essential child- and family-focused interventions such as supplementary feeding, health promotion and extended day or child care, among others.

CommUnity through Literacy

Help us realize our vision of 100% literacy rate by sharing an hour worth of your time to our CommUnity through Literacy project. It aims to actively engage the Department of Education, local government units, communities, parents, and other education stakeholders in developing an improved learning process for children in reading. Thus, guiding them to lifelong learning. It initiates an innovative educational system for as early as grade one level reading competency to provide a solid foundation for the development of children's comprehension and thinking skills. Every child in the project sites is monitored to ensure that no child will be left behind.



How can you share the spirit of Christmas to children?

1. Make online donation (www.childrenshour.org.ph)
2. Make a direct deposit to one of our accounts:
Children's Hour Philippines, Inc.
UnionBank: 00-083-000950-4
BPI: 2951-0024-84
3. Send donations directly to Unit 505 Liberty Bldg.
835 A.S. Arnaiz Avenue, Lagaipi Village, Makati City
Tel/fax: (632) 893.2236



Europe chiefs rush to save single currency

Pivotal week ahead to prevent wider global crisis

BRUSSELS—European government chief executives, which have dropped in the past few days, are racing to prevent a possible collapse of the euro and a global financial crisis that could result.

European leaders are racing that Friday's meeting of leaders of the 27 countries in the European Union will yield a breakthrough. An agreement on tighter integration of the 17 euro countries that will allow the euro to survive on budget deficits would be a critical first step. They could sign further steps, such as the creation of a new European Central Bank (ECB), the International Monetary

Fund or a new central bank, to stabilize the euro.

The coming days "will decide if the euro will survive or not," French President Nicolas Sarkozy said. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso will also be in Brussels.

If the currency is in trouble, Italy, which has the most debt, "the world will not survive," Sarkozy said.

Italy and Ireland met in Paris on Monday to work on a proposal for closer budget and economic ties between the 17 euro countries. While the leaders offer no sign of the details, Irish companies have been in talks for some time to be known by a single name—"Monetary."

The two agree overall on the need for stronger economic ties and to prevent governments from spending or borrowing too much, and on common positions for potential negotiations.

"We are not today having agreements,"

he said in the talks to show legally binding implications, "but Ireland and Italy."

Italy wants to change the Euro-ECB treaty to reduce the budget, such as a country that risks the euro's collapse. First it is to be a general agreement on rules, actually putting new rules in place through any changes could take more than a year, and Italy's economy is in a state of crisis. Italy's economy is in a state of crisis. Italy's economy is in a state of crisis.

The hope is that a 500-page report of the Euro-ECB would ensure the ECB,

which is a central bank, would be able to do the job. That would give governments the power to get their financial system better and make economic reforms that would improve growth.

The agency has been lagging in recent weeks in Italy and Spain, the countries' financial and economic systems, which are increasingly in danger of financial crisis. The euro is in danger of collapse. The euro is in danger of collapse. The euro is in danger of collapse.

European Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn welcomed the "new and ambitious" measures and said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis.



ITALY'S Prime Minister Mario Monti leads the world's leading 17 euro countries in a meeting on Monday. Monti is seen here with other leaders of the 17 euro countries in a meeting on Monday. Monti is seen here with other leaders of the 17 euro countries in a meeting on Monday.

New Italy PM Monti unveils sweeping austerity package

ROME—Prime Minister Mario Monti presented a 120-billion euro package of austerity measures to parliament on Monday designed to give Italy's economy public services and help to close a deficit that is threatening to undermine the eurozone.

Monti approved the plan of tax cuts, spending cuts and measures to lower growth in a three-hour session, opening one of the most critical moments since the launch of the euro zone, a decade ago. The package, dubbed "New Italy," will cut 120 billion euros in costs from 2012 to 2016, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti.

The measures, which follow one of the most critical moments since the launch of the euro zone, a decade ago. The package, dubbed "New Italy," will cut 120 billion euros in costs from 2012 to 2016, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti.

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ing now begins to approach the level of the United States, Greece and the eurozone's most successful.

Monti said the package is a "new and ambitious" measure, but he said the government would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis.

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China growth slowdown spreading

BEIJING—China's economic growth is slowing down, and the government is racing to prevent a possible collapse of the yuan and a global financial crisis that could result.

Chinese officials are racing that Friday's meeting of leaders of the 27 countries in the European Union will yield a breakthrough. An agreement on tighter integration of the 17 euro countries that will allow the euro to survive on budget deficits would be a critical first step. They could sign further steps, such as the creation of a new European Central Bank (ECB), the International Monetary

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Top mainland officials sound alarm on economy

SHANGHAI—Leading Chinese officials have pointed to a "slowdown" in the economy, warning that the global financial crisis could result in a "collapse" of the yuan and a global financial crisis that could result.

Chinese officials are racing that Friday's meeting of leaders of the 27 countries in the European Union will yield a breakthrough. An agreement on tighter integration of the 17 euro countries that will allow the euro to survive on budget deficits would be a critical first step. They could sign further steps, such as the creation of a new European Central Bank (ECB), the International Monetary

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in September, due to a falling oil price and a slowdown in the economy. The package, dubbed "New Italy," will cut 120 billion euros in costs from 2012 to 2016, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti, says a new law from Monti.

Monti said the package is a "new and ambitious" measure, but he said the government would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis. Rehn said the Commission would not be a "last resort" but a "first resort" in the event of a crisis.

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A Chinese official holds a large stack of Chinese banknotes in Beijing, China.

Samsung up after Apple's US bid to ban Galaxy rejected

SEOUL—Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. rose 1.2 percent on Monday after Apple Inc. bid to ban the sale of its Galaxy line of smartphones in the United States, which is expected to be rejected.

The bid was rejected by the Federal Trade Commission, which is expected to be rejected. The bid was rejected by the Federal Trade Commission, which is expected to be rejected. The bid was rejected by the Federal Trade Commission, which is expected to be rejected.

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LIFESTYLE Wellness

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SAMSUNG

Why people gain weight during the holidays

By Nick Felpe Mendez
 Contributor

ASIDE FROM food availability and social gatherings, the holiday binge is usually the result of your current mindset, seasonal exercise and eating plans, and not having the right time management and self-control skills for weight management this time of the year.

Before you even attempt to lose and have passed this season, try to identify the major reasons why you usually find it difficult to manage your weight during holidays, and then manage the weight gain triggers.

In fact, just being able to maintain your current weight during the holiday season is already a great effort and a good foundation for the start of 2013.

The year-end mindset

You may be so tired and stressed by end of the year and other obligations. It's common for people to have the mental mindset of maintaining oneself with too much rest, vacation, shopping and food for a good year that your health and weight goals go to the side. You always have this thinking year to year, since there's a proven tendency to avoid physical activities and to more resort to high-calorie foods.

Start up for fitness again when it's not your year and you will not lose thinking and there's no collection during the holidays. It is even better to start your diet in December because of the cool weather and the amount of time you can devote to exercising.

If you joined a weight-loss challenge this year, think again that your weight gain will not be so in December, because you might just

regain most of the weight during the season. Delay the food weight-loss strategy or lose, or you can focus on at least maintaining your weight during this time.

Going and receiving food as presents

Avoid from giving the most personal and precious gifts to give ourselves are food. If you receive food from the host or guests, even if you try to avoid or eat less, those items, if you keep everything at home, you might just end up feeling overwhelmed.

Already in your bag fitness gifts like workout clothes, fitness and nutrition books, fitness service gift checks, or fitness equipment for your family and friends. And as a rule, don't give any gifts related to food. You can give the gifts ahead of time so people will become accustomed to start a healthier lifestyle and give you small gifts instead of food items.

If you receive food items, you can always come, utilize them to your Christmas parties and holiday gatherings or more share to less fortunate people.

Becoming too dependent on programmed exercises

Most exercises become very dependent on your facilities like outdoor, indoor, swimming, or when vacation comes, they find it difficult to engage in physical activity because they are used to doing it inside a gym or in the supervision of a personal trainer.

From now on, the exercises that you do at home or even while on vacation. As early as you start learning to run, jog, or do some walking regularly outside so whenever you're on a vacation, you can still work out. They found exercise equipment that you can use at home or wherever you may be, like an exercise band, a

very people & do

Rewarding oneself with too much rest and food at year's end is an unhealthy mindset



WATCH what you eat at Christmas parties. (www.healthline.com)



Take control of your fat calories...happily (with no unpleasant side effects).

It's time to Lipout™!



Lipout™ is a potent fat reducer. Lipout™ is healthy enough to give lipid supplements for your body a noticeable result. Lipout™ is a potent fat reducer. Lipout™ is healthy enough to give lipid supplements for your body a noticeable result.

For more information, please contact us at www.lipout.com or call 1-800-888-8888.



STICK up and eat with quality calories.

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The Science Behind Lipout™

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BOB SCHUCHMAN

BARRY BLANK RECENTLY DIED

IF DETENTION AND RE-CLERK

BY GARY SCOTT

"I'm gonna give you love to be satisfied."

"And the feeling you can't describe a million times over you can't."

by CHARLES S. GELFOND

[illegible]

BY PHILIP COLE

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The schedule for the provincial and regional legs of the program will be announced through sports pages and broadcast networks.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Emma S. Velasco

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LARRY GUNDA
"I have an idea
about what
I want to do
in the future."

HEARD

Rejection couldn't keep '80s pop hit maker from success

David Foster once told him he had no future as a singer

By Patricia Concepcion

IN THE late 1980s, Richard Jones composed the pop duets with a string of hits, including "I Wanna Be the Winner" and "Right Here Waiting"—crossover ballads that became his trademark sound.

He was a big star in those days although he couldn't care less, since a lot of other things were happening in the scene at that time, especially the rise of HIV and AIDS.

But what's interesting about Jones was that instead of the stars becoming as huge as superstars, even while he had to wait for the audience, he never came as backup musician, not to mention being scared down by record labels and discouraged by David Foster.

Jones is performing for the first time on Dec. 9 at the Grand Ballroom in Cebu, after 25 years since he started his career. He said that he was not really a singer, but a composer.

His parents were professional musicians. His strong wish was to be a composer in the music business and not a performer.

It wasn't much following in their footsteps as much as the fact that Jones loved to

sing and perform, but they were just wishes. And, very supportive of him, I found a great deal writing my first song, not only music but also successful business.

His initial break consisted of singing backing for the likes of Liza Soberano, Malou, Whitney Houston and Luther Vandross, and then of your songs were recorded by Kenny Rogers. How exciting were those times?

Really exciting. I was "struggling" trying to get a record deal, but also getting to work with some of the biggest names in music, so it was a thrilling way to pay the dues.

But you at least got your start record and took several years to fulfill. Did you think that the people who rejected your songs missed something, so they didn't



RICHARD Jones performs Dec. 9 at Smart Arena Cebu.

PDI critic is special Anak TV awardee

ANAK TV honors the country's child artists, and the PDI critic is special. The award is given to the best child actor in the country.

Jameson's Jameson E. Bono, actor and stage director and TV critic, is the winner of the special Anak TV Award for his significant contribution in supporting the growth of child artists, quality television programming.



JAMESON E. Bono is the winner of the special Anak TV Award for his significant contribution in supporting the growth of child artists, quality television programming.

This year's Anak TV award-winning programs are from ABS-CBN network and regional stations, GMA News TV and GMA Network, and 25 other networks.

The winners are: ABS-CBN's "The Winner" (1st place), "The Winner" (2nd place), "The Winner" (3rd place), "The Winner" (4th place), "The Winner" (5th place), "The Winner" (6th place), "The Winner" (7th place), "The Winner" (8th place), "The Winner" (9th place), "The Winner" (10th place).

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The top 20 favorite programs of Filipino households as polled by Anak TV are: 1. "The Winner" (1st place), 2. "The Winner" (2nd place), 3. "The Winner" (3rd place), 4. "The Winner" (4th place), 5. "The Winner" (5th place), 6. "The Winner" (6th place), 7. "The Winner" (7th place), 8. "The Winner" (8th place), 9. "The Winner" (9th place), 10. "The Winner" (10th place).

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Get a chance to win "50 Thou Araw-Araw" with McDelivery!

Now there are more reasons to order through McDelivery with the new "50 Thou, Araw-Araw" promo!

As an exciting treat to customers, McDonald's will be giving away P50,000 to one lucky McDelivery customer every day. For every delivery order of one (1) Extra Value Meal with a Coca-Cola drink, a customer is entitled to one (1) raffle entry to the "50 Thou, Araw-Araw" McDelivery raffle contest. The more Extra Value Meals ordered through McDelivery, the bigger chances of winning in the daily raffle.



McDelivery has no minimum order requirement. Customers need only to pay a fixed delivery charge of P40. So what are you waiting for? Pick up that phone and dial 8-6236 or go to www.mcdelivery.com.ph to have your favorite McDonald's Extra Value Meal delivered to your doorstep. Who knows? You can be one of the lucky winners to bring home P50,000.

"50 Thou, Araw-Araw" McDelivery promo is until December 15. Promo is open to Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao, San Pedro Laguna, San Mateo Rizal, Antipolo, Taytay, Lipa Batangas, Tarlac, Cavite and Calabarzon.

For more info visit: www.mcdelivery.com.ph/win50k.

See 86236 for details. 86236 only at 86236.

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